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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Select Committee's Report is ready, Sir. It is now in the Legislative Council Office, as the hon. Member knows."

Mr. RAMANATH GOENKA:—"I should like to know for how many months this Report of the Select Committee has been ready and did not the hon. the Home Member promise even then that the Bill would be introduced in the Council in this session?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not understand the question, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member how many months ago the report became ready?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The report was ready in March. I wanted to introduce the Bill in April, but I found later that certain members of the Select Committee did not send in their dissenting minutes. When Mr. Cunningham' dissenting minute was received by the Government, it was pointed out that the Bill was not properly drafted and it was therefore necessary that the Government should consider it again in order effectively to carry out the provisions."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the same could not be done in the Council itself?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It was not possible, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know whether amendments for this purpose were moved in the Select Committee and were rejected?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes; but when the Commissioner of Police thinks otherwise, the Government have to consider it again."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Are we therefore to understand, Sir, that the Government has no policy to place before this Council in respect of this matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Government have their own policy, Sir."

Number of bucket shops in the City of Madras.

* 282 Q.—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many bucket shops otherwise called sports clubs have been started from October 1928; and

(b) what is the total strength of these clubs in the city at present?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have called for the information.

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know whether the Government propose to bring up this Bill at all before the House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "Yes, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the number of bucket shops has been increasing and in view of the fact that they have been doing so much injury to the public of Madras, may I know why the Police department under the charge of my hon. Friend has not been keeping a register of these criminals ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " They have got a register."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the hon. the Home Member aware that either he or some of the members of the Select Committee were approached by respectable and influential owners of bucket shops to see that the Bill was delayed as long as possible ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I protest against that suggestion, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is the definite and specific promise of the hon. the Home Member that the Bill with such amendments as the Government may recommend to this House, will be brought before the House at the next meeting of the Council ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "Yes, Sir, as far as I am able to gather."

Mr. RAMANATH GOENKA :—" Did not the hon. the Home Member promise that the Bill would be introduced even in the last session ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I have already explained the reasons why the Government were not able to introduce it last session, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know why, in that case, he can't say that he does not think it necessary to call for the information, instead of saying in the answer that he has called for the information ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I have called for the information, Sir, but it takes some time to get the information."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether as soon as the information is received, it will be placed on the table of the House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Yes, Sir, certainly."

Stationery

Indent of typewriters required for Government offices on the Superintendent of Stationery.

* 283 Q.—Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued a Government Order that all officers who indent for typewriters should do so on the Superintendent of Stationery, Madras ;